least one or more computers connected to the Internet.

38.   The method of claim 14, wherein in steps (2) and (3) the plurality of web-based tools comprise communication, collaboration, and transaction tools.

REMARKS

The Office Action of May 14, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. The Office Action subjects claims 1-26 to an election/restriction requirement consisting of three claim groups. Applicant elects Group III without traverse, and hereby cancels non-elected claims 1-13. In addition, Applicant has broadened and corrected a clerical error in claim 14, and has added new claims 27-38.

All outstanding issues having been addressed, Applicant respectfully requests that the subject application be examined on its merits at the Examiner's earliest possible convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley C. Wright
Reg. No. 38,061

Reg. No. 49,024

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
(202) 508-9100
Dated: June 14, 2002

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Appendix

A marked-up copy of amended paragraphs and claims is herein provided:

14. A method of creating a user-defined networked environment across a plurality of computers without requiring system administrator-level privileges, comprising the steps of:

(1) creating a group by providing a group identifier, a group description, and by specifying a plurality of group members entitled to use the user-defined networked environment;

(2) selecting a plurality of web-based ~~communication, collaboration, and transaction~~ tools from a list of available tools, wherein the selected tools are to be made available to the plurality of group members specified in ~~claim~~ step (1); and

(3) through the use of computer software, automatically creating the user-defined networked environment by creating a web page accessible to the plurality of group members selected in step (1), wherein the web page provides access to the plurality of tools selected in step (2).